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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/575,137	09/29/2008	Masahiro Yamamoto	A4-121 US	7288
7590 STEPHEN Z. WEISS MOLEX INCORPORATED 22222 WELLINGTON COURT LISLE, IL 60532				
02/27/2009				
EXAMINER				
HAMMOND, BRIGGITTE R				
ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER		
2833				
MAIL DATE		DELIVERY MODE		
02/27/2009		PAPER		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/575,137

Applicant(s)

YAMAMOTO ET AL.

Examiner

Brigitte R. Hammond

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 22 July 2008 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SF/ICE)
- Paper No(s)/Mail Date 9/29/08
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
- Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: ____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

Claims 1-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Huss Jr. et al. 2003/0166349 A1 (Huss), in view of Clark et al. 5,453,016.

Huss discloses an electrical connector for mounting on a circuit board, comprising: a dielectric housing; a plurality of first terminals(t) mounted on the housing and having circuit board press-fit portions (i) projecting therefrom; a plurality of second terminals (t)mounted on the housing and having circuit board press-fit portions projecting therefrom; a press-fitting block (51,52) engageable with the housing for press-fitting the first terminals into appropriate holes in the circuit board; and said press-fit portions of the second terminals being exposed exteriorly of the housing and the press-fitting block for locking engagement by an appropriate independent press-fitting jig for press-fitting the second terminals into appropriate holes in the circuit board. Huss does not disclose the press-fitting block (51,52) being locked (12-2,12-3) to the first terminals. However, Clark et al. disclose a press-fitting block (12) engageable with the housing and locked (12-2,12-3) to the first terminals. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill to modify the connector of Huss by providing the press-fitting block with locks to secure the terminals as taught by Clark et al.

Regarding claim 2, said first and second terminals are arranged in parallel at different pitches.

Regarding claim 3, Huss and Clark are silent regarding the intended use of the terminals being used as ground, signal or power terminals. However, since

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the terminals are metal, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill to use them for ground, signal or power terminals.

Also, it has been held that a recitation with respect to the manner in which a claimed apparatus is intended to be employed does not differentiate the claimed apparatus from a prior art apparatus satisfying the claimed structural limitations. *Ex parte Masham*, 2 USPQ 2d 1647 (1987). Apparatus claims must be structurally distinguishable from the prior art. While features of an apparatus may be recited either structurally or functionally, claims directed to an apparatus must be distinguished from the prior art in terms of structure rather than function. *In re Schreiber*, 128 F.3d 1473, 1477-78, 44 USPQ2d 1429, 1431-32 (Fed. Cir. 1997) (The absence of a disclosure in a prior art reference relating to function did not defeat the Board's finding of anticipation of claimed apparatus because the limitations at issue were found to be inherent in the prior art reference).

Regarding claim 4, said press-fitting block has an abutment surface arranged (top surface) for engagement by the press-fitting jig (75), whereby the jig is effective to press fit the first terminals into the circuit board, through the press-fitting block, as the jig is press-fitting the second terminals into the board.

Regarding claim 5, a press-fitting jig (75) having an abutment surface for engaging the abutment surface of the press-fitting block.

Regarding claim 6, said first and second terminals are L- shaped with mounting legs mounted in the housing and generally right-angled legs including said press-fit portions.

Regarding claim 7, said first and second terminals have lock portions that are able to be engaged by the press-fitting block and the press-fitting jig.

Regarding claim 8, said lock portions are adjacent to the press-fit portions of the respective terminals.

Regarding claim 9, said first and second terminals are arranged in generally parallel rows.

Regarding claim 10, Clark shows the terminals being offset from each other.

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Brigitte R. Hammond whose telephone number is 571-272-2006. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon.-Thurs. and Alternate Fridays from 8:30-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Renee Luebke can be reached on 571-272-2009. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Brigitte R. Hammond/
Primary Examiner
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February 17, 2009